

Wanderers try out five new players tonight

JOHN Murray, the former Reading and Brentford striker is one of five new players that Wycombe Wanderers will be trying out in tonight's (Friday) attractive friendly match against Altrincham at Loakes Park, writes Michael Knox.

Murray, who has also played in the Football League for Burnley, Blackpool and Bury, went into the Southern League this season at Dartford and, who knows, could be playing for Wycombe next season in the Isthmian. A bustling type of player he has scored more than 50 Football League goals.

The other four players being tried out are less well known as they, all are teenagers. Two of

them, defender Sean Price and forward Paul Miles, played in Reading's Combination team this past season, while the other two youngsters, Bob Parsons and Andrew Hunt, are both forwards. The latter pair, live in Stokenchurch and were recommended by Oxford United.

Wycombe boss Andy Williams was quick to stress that there was no immediate prospect of these players being signed on. He is just taking a look at them tonight to see if they are good enough.

Judd released

However Mr. Williams is hopeful of making two signings in the near future but neither will be on view tonight. The players, believed to be a tall central striker and a defender, have yet to be named because negotiations have not been completed.

One man unlikely to be at Loakes

Park next season is exciting young striker Mark Judd, who has been undergoing trials at Walsall the past two months.

Walsall have now in fact released him and as he does not have any firm job, Judd is something of a free agent with the whole country available. Mr. Williams pointed out that if Judd did return to the area he would be welcomed back to Wanderers, but thought it unlikely.

There is also some uncertainty as to the future of Dylan Evans who was put on the transfer list last month. Among clubs to have shown an interest in him are Slough Town, Staines and Aylesbury United and the decision as to where he will go, is up to him.

Tonight's match will certainly provide a test for the Wycombe newcomers as Altrincham are rated probably the best non-league side in the country. Indeed they are one of the two clubs applying to join the Football League next season.

Their credentials are impressive. Last year they won the F.A. Trophy while this season they proved one of the heroes of the F.A. Cup by reaching the third round and drawing at Tottenham Hotspur before losing the replay in Manchester.

They suffered a slight let-down after this defeat and went out of the Trophy to Cheltenham. But they maintained their good league form and eventually finished runners-up to Mossley in the Northern Premier.

Strikers out

Tonight they will be without their two leading strikers Jeff Johnson and John Rogers, who have scored more than 70 goals between them this season. Johnson is out with a trapped nerve in his back while Rogers cannot get off work.

Another star man likely to miss the match is their left side mid-field player John Davison, who has been included in the England Non-League squad for the forthcoming internationals.

However, they still have most of last year's Trophy winning side. However, two interesting newcomers are Tommy Kavanagh, son and namesake of a famous father, and defender Dave Mobley, brother of Vic.

One Wycombe man looking forward to the game more than most is Steve Hardwick who played at Moss Lane two seasons ago.

Manager Tony Sanders still holds him in great regard and rates him not just as a central defender, but as a striker as well. This is about the only position Hardwick has not played in for Wycombe this season.